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Dated: February 12, 2007    Signature: *Oliver T. Ong*  
(Oliver T. Ong)

Docket No.: 06005/37170  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:

**Michael D. APEL et al.**

Application No.: 09/871,115	Confirmation No.: 9797
Filed: May 31, 2001	Art Unit: 2182
For: INPUT/OUTPUT DEVICE WITH CONFIGURATION, FAULT ISOLATION AND REDUNDANT FAULT ASSIST FUNCTIONALLY	Examiner: Tanh Q. Nguyen

**AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING  
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

MS RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated October 11, 2006, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

- Amendments to the Claims** begin on Page 2 of this paper.
- Remarks/Arguments** begin on Page 18 of this paper.